

THE DAY (New London, Conn.)  
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# Opinion of The Day

## Turner and the CIA

**I**NTERNAL PROBLEMS ARE now besetting the nation's Central Intelligence Agency, say the latest reports out of Washington. Morale is low and the director is being accused of fragmenting the agency, demoralizing middle grade and senior officers and reducing the CIA's clout.

Actually, from this vantage point, it appears Adm. Stansfield Turner is making the right moves as director of the CIA. He has admitted he may have made some mistakes since he was sworn in last March, but he is making progress.

He notified 212 members of the covert operations staff Oct. 31 that they were being considered for termination and says up to 225 more will receive similar notices during the next year. (Naturally, the first notice was dubbed the "Halloween massacre.")

But Turner has kept his promise of more openness in CIA dealings, and his management decisions appear more likely to help than harm the agency. We agree with the current and former CIA officials who, in a *New York Times* report acknowledged that "Admiral Turner's stewardship coincided with changed perceptions of the nation's role in the world. As one former official expressed it, the need for an intelligence service is greatly reduced if the country's main concern is with human rights."

President Carter has made it clear that his concern is with human rights. And that does effect the operations of an intelligence agency like the CIA. Turner has been doing a solid job in a difficult position and we hope that he can have the entire agency straightened out before too much longer.